

## RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the hour of 2:45 p.m. having arrived, the Senate will now stand in recess until the hour of 3:45 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 2:45 p.m., recessed until 3:46 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. INHOFE).

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KEMPTHORNE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, what is the order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The pending business is Senate bill 2312.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak out of order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MAN'S LONGING FOR IMMORTALITY SHALL ACHIEVE ITS REALIZATION

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, we have just returned from a most moving ceremony in the great Rotunda of the Capitol. The flag-draped coffins of Officer Chestnut and Officer Gibson, who died while doing their solemn duties protecting the public, the employees, and the members of the institution they served, rested imposingly on catafalques, mere yards from where these two brave men were brutally cut down by an armed assailant on last Friday. The sublime majesty of the great marble dome rising above us was somehow magnified by the solemn and eerie silence which was broken only by an occasional cough. The sense of loss was palpable. Sadness permeated the very air.

Such times as these cause all of us to ponder anew the fragile brevity and uncertainty of the human condition. Officer Chestnut was apparently writing directions for a tourist—doing a kind deed—when his life was suddenly ended. I am sure that when he arose and dressed for work on Friday morning he expected nothing more than an ordinary day, followed by a night at home with his family and the simple pleasures of a sunny weekend.

Officer Gibson, as he began his day, likewise, probably had no expectations of the bloody gun battle which would, in just hours, mean his death. It is at times like these, when we witness the anguish of families and friends trying to cope with the incomprehensible reality of brutal and sudden death, that some may wonder how a just God could

allow such seemingly mindless violence and misery. In the face of such tragedies, some may even question the very existence of a Creator. We reach for answers that elude our grasp. Why do such things happen? What, after all, is the point of human existence? It seems that our faith is tested most severely when good men senselessly die.

Yet, the proof of a living Creator is in abundant evidence all around us. It is in the perfection and order of the natural world in which we live. It is in the beauty and endless variety of the millions of species which inhabit the planet. It is in the mystery and complexity of the human genetic code. It is in the intangible and unconquerable bravery of the human spirit. It is in the magnificence of the wonders which modern science daily unveils. And I, for one, find no disparity between scientific discovery and God's living word in the Holy Bible.

Genesis, the first book of the Bible, gives the account of all Creation, tells of the establishment of the family, the origin of sin, the giving of divine revelation, the development of the human race, and the inauguration of God's plan of redemption through its chosen people. Genesis takes the reader to the moment when the omnipotent Creator spoke into being the matchless wonders of sun, moon, stars, planets, galaxies, plants, and moving creatures, and man, whom He made in His image. It is the first book of the Pentateuch, which both Scripture and tradition attribute to Moses.

If a student expects to find in Genesis a scientific account of how the world came into existence, with all questions concerning primitive life answered in technical language familiar to the professor or student of science, he will be disappointed. Genesis is not an attempt to answer such questions. It deals with matters far beyond the realm of science. Yet, I have not personally read of any disagreement within the science community concerning the chronological order of the events of creation as set forth in the book of Genesis. Instead of disagreement, it has been my perception that there is agreement.

The opening sentence of the first chapter of Genesis states, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." That is as far back in time as one can get—"in the beginning." And it could include a billion years or ten billion years or 500 billion years.

The second sentence of Genesis, Chapter 1, reads as follows: "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep." I doubt that any scientist would disagree with this.

According to the account in Genesis, God then divided the light from the darkness, and scientists agree that there could have been cosmic light before the sun, moon and stars were created. The Creator then proceeded to divide the waters and to let the dry land appear. The dry land was called "earth," and the gathering together of the waters was called "seas."

The next step as related by Genesis was the bringing forth of grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit.

Then, according to Genesis, God said, "Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creatures that have life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven."

"And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind."

On the scientific side, facts from fossils, plus other data, have shown that mammals (animals with solid bones, warm blood, lungs that breathe air, and nourish their young with milk) form the final stage in a long series of development, which began with tiny sea-dwelling creatures. Scientists seem to think that an early type of fish was the ancestor of amphibians and thereafter evolved into mammal-like reptiles. The primitive amphibians also branched into creatures with wings and thus became birds and other fowl. Great changes occurred over time. Primitive true mammals, according to science, lived during the age of reptiles and these were the probable ancestors of the mammals alive today.

Returning, now, to the biblical account of Creation, by the conclusion of the "fifth day," God had said: "Let the earth bring forth the living creatures after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind," and, in the "sixth day," God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

We have reached the "sixth day" in the biblical account. A day, in God's divine revelation to Moses, evidently meant a period of some undetermined length. In Psalm 90—a prayer of Moses—we are told: "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. . . . For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night."

Regardless of the length of the Creation "days", in the sixth, all preparations had been completed for the advent of man. "So God created man"—we are told—"in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them."

On the seventh day, God rested from his work. Hence, both science and the Bible seem to agree, in broad terms, regarding the chronological order of the events of Creation.

The modern explanation of evolution dates from 1859, when Charles Darwin published the "Origin of Species." According to Darwin, members of each species compete with each other for a chance to live, as well as with members of different species. In this competition